

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 9, 10, 13, 14 and 17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable based on the Examiner's observation that "Uemura and the cited prior art fail to disclose the joining means including a four way splitter and a phase lock loop is coupled to the four way splitter." Based on the Examiner's suggestion, applicants have rewritten claims 9, 13 and 17 into independent form and have also amended independent claims 1 and 27 to each require a four-way splitter.

Without prejudice, applicants are also filing a terminal disclaimer to obviate the obviousness-type double patenting rejection.

All outstanding issues have been addressed and this application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Should any minor issues remain outstanding, the applicants request the Examiner to contact their undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

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